

# OMMS and Part C

Exam Briefing

Trinity Term 2022

# Aim for Today

- ▶ Talk about exam preparation.
- ▶ Talk about the days of the exams.
- ▶ Talk (briefly) about results.

# Exam Preparation

- ▶ Revise.
- ▶ Revise.
- ▶ Revise.
- ▶ Eat, sleep, do something else.

## Revision Resources: Consultation Sessions

- ▶ The schedules can be found at:  
<https://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/members/students/undergraduate-courses/ba-master-mathematics/examinations-assessments/consultation> and  
<https://canvas.ox.ac.uk/courses/116812/pages/revision-sessions-timetable>.
- ▶ Some weeks the tutor will go through a past paper — it makes sense to try that paper before the session.
- ▶ Some weeks you can go along with questions — please email specific questions in advance.
- ▶ The plan for the session will be announced in advance on the course Moodle page.
- ▶ Don't expect the tutor to “perform”. The intention is that the sessions are student led.

# Revision Resources: Past Papers

- ▶ Past papers can be found at
  - ▶ <https://weblearn.ox.ac.uk/portal/site/:oxam>
  - ▶ <https://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/members/students/undergraduate-courses/examinations-assessments/past-papers>
- ▶ Some solutions are available at
  - ▶ <https://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/members/students/undergraduate-courses/examinations-assessments/part-c-specimen-solutions>
  - ▶ <https://canvas.ox.ac.uk/courses/116812/pages/part-c-statistics-specimen-exam-papers-and-solutions>

## Revision Resources: Past Papers

- ▶ Try them!
- ▶ Initially you might just like to try the papers to get a feel for the length of the questions and the standard of the material.
- ▶ Later try them under timed conditions. This will help you to practise choosing questions. How much can you do in the time available? (You can always do the rest of the paper as revision after the time is up.) You only have a short time to demonstrate to the examiners what you know.

## Exam Days

- ▶ The exam timetable is available at [https://www.ox.ac.uk/sites/files/oxford/field/field\\_document/JMAS2122T.pdf](https://www.ox.ac.uk/sites/files/oxford/field/field_document/JMAS2122T.pdf)
- ▶ Morning exams start at 9.30am and afternoon exams start at 2.30pm.
- ▶ All exams will be held at Examination Schools on the High Street. Be sure you get there with at least 15 minutes to spare to find the room and your seat in the room.
- ▶ Make sure you don't revise too late the night before and do set your alarm clock. If you oversleep and miss the exam you will score 0 marks in that paper (and the late night revision will be wasted).

## Things to Take to Exams

- ▶ You need to wear sub fusc for all exams (including gown and taking mortarboard). If it's hot you can take off some layers (e.g. your gown) once you are in the room. See <https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/dress>.
- ▶ You need your University Card and you should put this photo side up on the desk throughout the exams.
- ▶ Don't forget your A4 sheet of notes if you have prepared one.
- ▶ You should have your writing equipment in a clear pencil case or clear plastic bag.
- ▶ You need to know your candidate number (this can be found in Student Self Service and appears on your individual timetable).
- ▶ Calculators are only allowed for the C6.2 and C7.1 papers.
- ▶ You can take non-carbonated water in a clear, spill-proof bottle.
- ▶ You may take watches (not smart watches) and wallets.
- ▶ No mobile phones allowed!



# The Beginning of the Exam

- ▶ Desks will be numbered, and alphabetised lists will be displayed throughout the waiting areas telling you in which room and at which desk you will take your exam in that session.
- ▶ On reaching your desk you should check that the correct question paper has been provided but you should not open the paper until the invigilator declares the start of the examination.
- ▶ You are not allowed to leave the exam during the first 30 minutes or the last 30 minutes (although let the invigilator know if you feel ill).
- ▶ If you are more than 30 minutes late, you will not be allowed to sit the exam.
- ▶ More information is available at <https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/exams/guidance>.

## Exam Rubrics

- ▶ All single unit maths and statistics papers are 1.75 hours in length and contain three questions. Each question is marked out of 25 and your best two marks count — you may submit solutions to as many questions as you like.
- ▶ The double unit theoretical physics paper C7.1 is different and you should have received separate information if you are sitting this double unit.

# The Exam Itself

- ▶ Booklets of unlined paper will be provided and you should make sure you start the answer to each question in a new booklet (ask for extra booklets if you need them).
- ▶ You can do rough work either in a separate booklet or in the same booklet as you use. Either way the rough work should be submitted but crossed out so that the assessors do not mark it.
- ▶ If you believe there is an error or ambiguity in the paper then make a note of it in your solutions. Assessors will not be present at the exam.

## Doing the Exam Questions

- ▶ The checklist for setters states that each question should have an easy start, worth at least 10 marks, which might be readily and routinely completed.
- ▶ Take time to read the questions carefully and in full before you start. Sometimes, for example, the hints for part (a) are at the end of the question — it's a shame to only notice the hint after you've finished.
- ▶ Answer the question that's been set — don't accidentally skip parts and don't do more than is required. Make your reasoning clear and state theorems etc if necessary but don't feel the need to write in full sentences.
- ▶ You can write on the exam paper or underline parts of the questions if you want (although don't write on anything you would want marked).

# If You Get Stuck

- ▶ Don't panic! Take a moment. . .
- ▶ Remember that it is highly unusual to expect to finish all the questions.
- ▶ Think about whether you can do parts of the question you are on out of order. For example, if part (a) is a “show that something holds” type question you can probably use this results in part (b) even if you couldn't do part (a). You can always come back to (a) later if there is time.
- ▶ Is there another question you could try?
- ▶ Ask an invigilator if you need non-maths help.

# The End of the Exam

- ▶ You should stop writing when the invigilator tells you to at the end of the exam.
- ▶ Make sure you have written your candidate number on each booklet.
- ▶ Order the booklets by question number and attach them together with the treasury tag provided.
- ▶ If you have not attempted any questions, complete the front page of an empty booklet.
- ▶ When the invigilator says you may leave, make sure you take all your belongings and leave quietly (other exams may still be going on).
- ▶ You may take the question paper with you but all other paper should be left in the exam room.

## Illness and Other Extenuating Circumstances

If you are ill, have an accident or have other extenuating circumstances on the day of an exam or in the days preceding an exam meaning your exam performance is affected, you should get in touch with your college. They will submit a “ Mitigating Circumstances Notice to Examiners” on your behalf so that the examiners can take your circumstances into account.

If your circumstances mean you cannot attend an exam you should also contact your college.

Mitigating circumstances involving illness will require a medical certificate.

# Results

Final results should be available in early to mid- July. Once they are available you will receive an email notification and then you will be able to log in to the Student Self Service to see your results. Note that you will not receive results for either mini-project submissions or dissertations until then.



And Finally ...

GOOD LUCK!